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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHPE #4579 3392018  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 052018Z DEC 06  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3208  
INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 1565  
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 4152  
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 7116  
RUEHBW/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 2696  
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 9986  
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ DEC MONTEVIDEO 9046  
RUEHQD/AMEMBASSY QUITO 0867  
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 0985  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA 0029  
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0102

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 004579

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DEPT FOR WHA/CCA AND WHA/AND

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/06/2016

TAGS: ETTC ETRD PREL CU PE

SUBJECT: CUBA: PERU REVIEW FOR SUSPENSION OF TITLE III OF  
THE LIBERTAD ACT

REF: STATE 191752

Classified By: CDA Phyllis M. Powers, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (U) Following is Post's response to reftel questions.

PERUVIAN INVESTMENTS IN CUBA

¶2. (U) There is no reliable data on Peruvian investment in Cuba. The vast majority of Peru's limited foreign direct investment is in Mexico, Bolivia, Ecuador, Central America, and the Cayman Islands.

TRADE AGREEMENTS

¶3. (U) There are no bilateral trade agreements between Peru and Cuba. Trade between the two countries is minimal. From January through November 2006, the value of Peru's exports to Cuba totaled USD 2.8 million, ranking Cuba 70th worldwide in terms of exports received from Peru. About 75 percent of Peru's exports to Cuba consisted of: polymer plates, laminates, sheets, strips, bags, cones and adhesives; books, brochures and similar printed materials; and frozen, dry, salted or briny squid and cuttlefish. Peru only imports about half a million dollars worth of products from Cuba per year, including rum, vaccines and medical products.

PERU-CUBA EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

¶4. (SBU) In 1999 the two countries signed a Basic Agreement on Technical Cooperation, but little has been implemented under this agreement due to lack of financing and prioritization. About 40 Peruvian students study medicine and physical education in Cuba on GOC scholarships at any given time.

GOP EFFORTS TO PROMOTE DEMOCRACY  
AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN CUBA

¶5. (C) Peru's current leaders have been guarded and

pragmatic on the leadership situation in Cuba. After lamenting Fidel's deteriorating health, Peruvian Prime Minister Jorge Del Castillo told the press on August 1 that the international community should prepare itself to assist in a political transition in Cuba to avoid "a civil war." Del Castillo noted that Cubans are divided into "impassioned groups" and that "it is necessary to form a group that can play a role" in assuring a peaceful transition in that country. While the previous Toledo Administration was often openly hostile towards the Castro regime, including support for many of the UNCHR resolutions on Cuba, the new Garcia Administration has not yet made any significant pronouncements on Cuba one way or the other. MFA officials have told us Peru would likely not play a prominent or high-profile role in any future political transition.

HIGH LEVEL VISITS

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**¶6. (SBU)** There have been no high-level diplomatic visits between the two countries in the past six months. Peruvian President Alan Garcia took office in July 2006 after defeating Chavez and Castro-friendly far-left nationalist candidate Ollanta Humala in a heated race, and has openly criticized both Chavez and Castro. The MFA's Assistant Secretary-level chief of Multilateral Issues, Ambassador

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Antonio Garcia Revilla, represented Peru at the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit in Havana in September 2006.

POWERS